

Message Text

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TO USDEL MTN GENEVA

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FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SECSTATE DTD 261634Z JUL 76

QUOTE MONTEVIDEO 2766

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, UY
SUBJECT: TRADE POLICY TEAM VISIT TO LATIN AMERICA

REF: STATE 177351

1. EMBASSY NOTES OMISSION OF URUGUAY AND LAFTA FROM COUNTRIES AND REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS BEING CONTACTED DURING PROPOSED VISIT. ALTHOUGH LAFTA HAS NOT BEEN VERY ACTIVE RECENTLY, IT DOES HAVE A FUNCTIONING SECRETARIAT ORGANIZATION HERE AND EACH MEMBER COUNTRY HAS A RESIDENT AMBASSADOR TO THE ORGANIZATION. GENERALLY, THESE AMBASSADORS HAVE TRADE POLICY EXPERIENCE, AND HAVE SOME INFLUENCE IN THEIR OWN COUNTRIES. THEY ARE CLEARLY UNDEREMPLOYED HERE AND WOULD APPRECIATE THE CHANCE TO DISCUSS BROAD TRADE ISSUES. WE HAVE ALSO RECEIVED SOME COMMENT HERE THAT U.S. SUPPORT FOR LA INTEGRATION ESPECIALLY LAFTA HAS BEEN LAGGING RECENTLY.

2. IN THE CASE OF URUGUAY SPECIFICALLY, EMBASSY ALSO BELIEVES A VISIT WOULD BE USEFUL. GOU HAS A CONSTRUCTIVE AND COOPERATIVE ATTITUDE ON NORTH - SOUTH TRADE ISSUES, AND THE U.S. TRADE ACT IN PARTICULAR. EBERLE'S VISIT HERE TWO YEARS AGO WAS A REAL SUCCESS

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AND SUCH EVIDENCE OF INTEREST CONSTITUTES PLUS FACTOR IN TERMS ARE

BILATERAL AND MULTILATERAL RELATIONS.

3. FOR THE ABOVE REASONS EMBASSY RECOMMENDS A TRADE POLICY TEAM VISIT TO MONTEVIDEO DURING FORTHCOMING TRIP. EVEN A ONE DAY STOP WITH MEETINGS WITH THE GOU IN THE MORNING AND A LAFTA MEETING IN THE AFTERNOON WOULD BE USEFUL. SIRACUSA UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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